IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Randall L. Findley, et al.

Serial No.:

09/977,045

Filed:

October 12, 2001

Title:

PROGRAMMABLE FEEDBACK DELAY PHASE-LOCKED LOOP FOR HIGH-SPEED INPUT/OUTPUT TIMING BUDGET MANAGEMENT AND METHOD OF OPERATION THEREOF

Grp./A.U.:

2611

Examiner:

Kevin Kim

Confirmation No.: 3709

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed with United States Patent and trademark Office on:

November 13, 2006 (Date)

Debbie Sams

(Printed or typed name of person signing the certificate)

|Debbie Sams|

(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT SUBMITTED WITH RCE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.114(c)

Before continuing examination of the above-identified application, please refer to the below arguments and amend the claims as indicated.